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TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1913.

## Murdoch on the Tariff.

Victor Murdoch, the leader of the Progressive party in the House, and its sole representative on the Ways and Means Committee, stated yesterday in the tariff debate his and his party's position upon the tariff. True to his reputation of the unyielding enemy of Cannonism he attacks the methods by which the Underwood bill was framed and is about to be enacted into law. He attacked the unsatisfactory method of collecting information, the secret adjustment of rates among the members of the Ways and Means Committee, and the enactment of the bill under the duress of caucus rule. Democrats and Republicans alike have been curious to know what stand the leader of the Progressives would take upon the Underwood bill. His answer yesterday was that he would vote against it.

Murdoch and the Progressives have laid emphasis on two facts in the present tariff controversy. In the first place they are now generally recognized as the true friends of a tariff commission. They contend—and no one disputes what they say—that Congress can legislate intelligently only when it has before it scientific information collected by a nonpartisan commission and when the tariff is debated in the light of this information schedule by schedule, and with full opportunity for all parties to be heard.

In the second place, the Progressives have attempted to save the best of the protective principle and to restore it to American political life. In defining the party position Murdoch said in his minority report accompanying H. R. 3321:

"The Progressive party's position on the tariff is, therefore, distinct. It does not believe in the Democratic position as outlined in the Baltimore platform of 1912, which proposes to remove all protection. It does not believe in the Republican position which, as evidenced by the last Republican offering, the present Payne-Aldrich tariff law, proposes to keep the duties prohibitive. The Progressive party believes in a protective tariff, which shall equalize conditions of competition between the United States and foreign countries, both for the farmer and the manufacturer, and which shall maintain for labor an adequate standard of living. This would be a true competitive tariff, and the Progressive party maintains that in the framing of such a tariff considerations of all factors affecting the competitive strength of an industry here and in foreign lands is prerequisite."

The position of the Progressive party on the tariff is unique. Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, speaking in the House a few days ago, said that if the Democrats in any way failed to make good by the present revision of the tariff, the people of the nation would turn, not to the Republicans who have already been discredited, but to the Progressive party. These words of warning to the old parties reveal the opportunity of the Progressives who are about to find that a subject, regarded by them in the Presidential campaign of only passing importance, is to them a possible road to success.

## The Firemen Win.

The decision of the arbitration board under the Erdman act in the controversy between the general managers and firemen of the Eastern railroads is a compromise, but one which can hardly be said to divide the differences. The firemen come well up to the basis of their contention in an award of from 10 to 12 per cent increase in wages and in reduction in the service they must render. The managers had conceded, before the case was placed in the hands of the board, that the firemen should receive an advance in compensation, though what they would have voluntarily allowed probably would have been less than the figures set by the arbitrators.

The limitations of the Erdman act were not strictly observed by that commission, as the time allowance was too brief for arriving at a satisfactory conclusion.

We believe both parties will abide by it. Should the report be conclusive it will add \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000 to the operating expenses of the Eastern roads. This comes on the heels of a recent advance to the engineers, the second in three years. On the waiting list for the presentation of claims for more pay are the conductors and trainmen, and probably the truckmen, oilers, and cleaners. Even the engineers, who thus far have fared

better than their fellow-employees, are but partially pacified, and there is rather a brief limit to the time when they will feel bound by the terms of the latest agreement.

Those responsible for railroad service that will satisfy the public find themselves confronted by accumulating burdens. Their only dependence for meeting these, under present limitations, is an increase in the volume of their business. It is obvious that this is not growing in proportion to their swelling liabilities. It looks like injustice for the Interstate Commerce Commission to hold them in leash to the extent that it is now doing. The increased cost of living is a very practical reason for advancing wages. Is it not a reason that applies with equal logic to the raising of rates?

## Let Well Enough Alone.

With the incoming of a new Congress we have a rather unusual number of propositions looking to a change of local government. It is gratifying to find our legislators taking an interest in our affairs, and yet a certain kind of interest may not be altogether beneficial. This is assuredly the case when an effort is made to change a system of government, which has proven successful for more than a quarter of a century and under which the District has made substantial progress. It seems strange, therefore, that any one should want to experiment with a Mayor and common council or a territorial Governor and Legislature. It is no exaggeration to say that a very large proportion of the District population is thoroughly satisfied with present conditions. It is certainly doubtful whether we would have an equally satisfactory state of affairs if a change should be made.

It is sincerely to be hoped that Congress will hesitate to adopt any of the numerous bills which have been introduced looking to a new form of government here. There is no widespread demand on the part of the citizens here for a change. There will be a decided protest if Congress seriously threatens to enact the proposed legislation.

## Lord Roberts' Conscription Campaign.

Not daunted by the traditional British repugnance to compulsory military service, Lord Roberts, the venerable field marshal, continues his campaign for national training. Whatever may be the outcome of the movement it has passed the stage of derision, and he has audiences who go home to ponder the fact that conscription, equalizing as it does rich and poor, is really a democratic institution. Those who would hear him far exceed the seating capacity of the public halls, and overflow meetings have been organized. At Leeds nearly 20,000 persons attended. There was one large audience in the town hall and 10,000 assembled in one of the public squares and read Lord Roberts' speech by stereophone. The second overflow meeting looked at military movies whose lessons were expounded by Admiral Cumin, who is the field marshal's able assistant.

But while Lord Roberts expounds his idea of forming a territorial army, in which every young man of military age shall receive training enough to qualify him for service in a national emergency, the politicians are taking an attitude of silent observation. The Liberal leaders stand pledged to the existing territorial army, and the majority of the Unionist chiefs are watching to see how Lord Roberts takes with the masses.

Conscription is a word hateful to British ears, but Lord Roberts does not propose compulsory service in the standing army. He is urging the creation of a highly trained, intelligently disciplined reserve for national defense. The National Service League, of which Lord Roberts is the chief, has 300,000 members, a following capable both of exercising a marked influence on popular thought and of attacking tradition boldly. The British cherish conservative traditions, but the success of the Lloyd-George programme, the enactment of national insurance, and the suppression of the House of Lords, are reminders that the British are susceptible to radicalism.

## Navy Efficiency.

Since Louis D. Brandeis startled the country with his figures on efficiency, the question has been taken up by large business enterprises, has entered high cost of living and tariff discussions, and is bound to become a factor in planning for an improved navy. Today the personnel of the navy is of a high order, but in number is not up to the complement authorized, lacking some 4,000 of the 45,000 allowed. The latest and most powerful war vessels require crews of 600 or 700 to the 400 of such battleships as the famous Oregon, and while the cost of the newer type is much larger, the efficiency is vastly increased. Besides this, the newer battleships are better and safer in every respect. With the current discussion over the alleged unpreparedness of the navy, it is well to remember that the United States does not keep vessels but a decade ago regarded as the latest of sea fighters on the active list.

So while our navy is efficient, it is not large enough, and the future means an increase in the number of battleships, as well as an increase in their efficiency and safety.

The latest statistics of the areas devoted to the principal crops in the Russian maritime province for 1912 gave 5,914,365 acres of land as suitable for cultivation.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

By FRANK C. KELLY.

When the spring comes along

Every bard has a song

And he waits for no hint.

Swiftly puts into print

A refrain.

People sneer at his verse:

Show in words harsh and terse

Their disdain at his mad

They should not blame the bard.

Goodness knows it is hard

To refrain.

Apprehensive.

"Hamlet has a timorous about

appearing in the town."

"Stage fright at his age? Why, he's

been on the boards for years."

"But this is the first time he was

ever billed for two nights in one place."

No Room Whatever.

"Aren't your refreshments rather

scanty, dear?"

"Only ultra-fashionable women are

asked: a woman in a fashionable gown

can't eat over four bites of

anything."

His Question.

"Well, when you get the suffrage, what

are you going to do with it?" demanded

the Old Snail. "Use it, or tie it up with

pink ribbons and hang it in a cozy

corner?"

A Bridge Bore.

I do not like the gabby guy.

With flaws in his argument

Who always prompts to tell you why

You lost the trick.

Another Process.

"Little Tommy won't wash his face

and hands. What shall I do?"

"You might have him dry cleaned by

one of these vacuum wagons," suggested

the head of the house.

Ways of Making.

"People are queer."

"How now?"

"The round-shouldered man straight-

ens up for five minutes when he is

asked for his neighbor's suit. When

he slumps again of course the suit

doesn't fit."

Taking Their Turn.

"Why station a policeman beside this

park bench?"

"It is newly painted."

"He can't keep people from testing

fresh paint."

"No, but he can keep 'em in line."

PRESIDENT SPEAKS  
TO CALIFORNIA BOYSMr. Wilson Delivers Eulogy on Stars  
and Stripes to Columbia  
Club.

President Wilson yesterday presented to the Columbia Boys' Club, of California, a silk United States flag, which had been purchased for them by members of the State delegation in Congress. The club consists of forty-seven boys who have made high averages in the public schools of California. They have begun a trip around the world, which was awarded them for their scholastic attainments.

At their band, the club marched to the front porch of the White House. The President addressed them from the porch. He said:

"I am very glad to officiate on this occasion and to address a club that bears this name. I dare say you think that schoolmasters are often a bit hard on you. I realize you do not do things in order that you may pass the tests of the school, but I want to warn you that after you get out of school you are going to have harder schoolmasters than you ever had before. For the world requires that you make good, no matter what happens, and the man who does things amounts to a great deal more than the man who does not. He will do things and who promises that he will do things."

"So that as you have begun as an achievement club, you must feel that an achievement club, and in no other way. The men I am sorry for are the men who stop and think that they have accomplished something before they stop at the grave. You must not let me have your second wind in this world and keep it up until the last minute. Now, if this flag means anything, it means achievement not only, but it means that achievement that does not center in ourselves. It is nothing to be proud of that we have done a lot for ourselves, but it is something to be proud of that we have done it for other people—that we have lived for the good of the world, to hold in us the image of our country as this great flag stands for. And there is nothing which we can not achieve, and there is nothing which we can not achieve, and there is nothing which we can not achieve."

## FEVER RETURNS TO POPE.

Pontiff Shows Weakness, and Has

Poor Night.

Rome, April 28.—It is reported the Vatican physicians are using electricity to combat the continued weakness in the Pope's limbs. In spite of this and other treatments, however, His Holiness spent another poor night last night, getting very little, if any sleep, and awakening with a slight fever today.

The doctors refused to allow him to sit up, and insisted that he return to liquid food.

Mgr. Parolin, the Pope's nephew, is spending the night in the Pontiff's room.

## BUILDING FOR THE BLIND.

Work on R Street \$32,000 Home

Now Is Under Way.

Work on the new building for the blind was begun yesterday. The building is to be situated in R Street Northwest, between Thirtieth and Thirty-first Streets. About \$32,000 will be spent on the new building, which is to be three stories high.

The \$30,000 building of St. Martin's Church will soon be under course of construction at the site of the present chapel, at North Capitol and T Streets Northwest. Plans have been accepted, and the contract awarded to John P. Newman.

## Bridge Blaze Calls Fireboat.

The fireboat Firefighter was called out at 12:23 o'clock this morning to extinguish a blaze beneath the draw of the Highway Bridge. The woodwork caught fire from defective insulation of the electric wires, it is thought. Little damage was reported.

## Memorials Proposed for This City.

A bill providing for the erection in Washington of memorials to Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton was introduced yesterday by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts.

Duchess Again May Go Under Knife.

London, April 28.—According to an official bulletin issued tonight a further operation on the Duchess of Connaught has been found necessary, symptoms of intestinal obstruction having occurred. The previous operation was performed about ten days ago.

## STATESMEN—REAL AND NEAR

By FRANK C. KELLY.

Senator Sherman, who has come from

Illinois to use up what is left of the

Lorain term, is a queer looking, long-

colored, black string necked, medium-

sized man, with uncombed gray hair,

Lincolnesque features, and heavy gold-

rimmed spectacles that have half-oval

lenses. These spectacles perlist in rest-

ing. As a funny almost comical mask

face, so that he can look through one

and over the top of the other. He is a

calm man, above being annoyed by such

trivialities as spectacles that won't

sit straight, but the things are likely to

worry anybody else who talks to him.

One keeps wondering if the spectacles

would stay straight if one were to take

hold of them and adjust them properly.

When they are set straight to the glass,

and why doesn't he shove them around

the way they belong?

Sherman himself goes on talking and

paying no attention whatever to the

spectacles. He is the kind of man who

invariably wears comfortable

things with square toes and no tips, and

takes things just as they come. Thirty

years ago he made his first campaign

speech, and two members of the

audience got into a fight with him

outside where they would have plenty

of room and all the others started to

follow them. Some speakers might have

been greatly embarrassed at having an

audience depart in that manner, but

Sherman simply told them to go out and

see the fight through, wash off the face

of the loser at the pump, and then come

back in to hear his views about the

tariff.

He did just that, and while the fight

was going on Sherman sat on the plat-

form as calmly as a person reading the

antique magazines in a doctor's office.

Every community has a lawyer or two

of the Sherman type. In plain words

clothes, with a learned touch of dan-

dang on the collar, they can get up and

talk quietly and convincingly to a jury

about the facts involved in the case

at hand. They are the best of their

kind, and some other suit that requires

a lot of "looking up" the law, but offers

little chance for spectacular stuff. Sher-

man, however, can put across an excel-

lent line of oratory on occasion.

Although he has achieved distinction

in educational fields, the thing that fills

Representative Simon D. Fess with the

greatest sense of pride is his personal

appearance. He came here direct from

Antioch College, an institution out in

Ohio, founded by Horace Mann. And he is

an authority on neighboring law. He

taught that subject for fifteen years, and

now when members of Congress talk for

hours at a time about a trivial point

of order Fess can understand what it

is all about.

Postmaster General Burleson was noted

in his college days for his belligerent

attitude toward fraternalism. He regarded

as undesirable and fought them con-

stantly. (Copyright, 1913, by Fred C. Kelly. All rights re-

served.)

Court Gossip of Interesting  
Events on Two Continents

King Nicholas of Montenegro, though he has lived his three score and ten, has yet to learn the devious ways of European diplomacy. And the shock administered to the wily old warrior of the Dalmatian Mountain fastnesses came from a source where he had a right to expect quite a different treatment; for it is his powerful friend and near relative, his standby, whom he has trusted in the past, who has betrayed him. King Nicholas and his handful of men among the Balkan allies who, with his co-signatories of the triple alliance, are the backbone of the triple alliance, the demonstration to teach Nicholas the lesson that it will not do to ignore the decisions of the concert of the great nations of Europe. His rustic and defiant attitude is likely to cost him his throne, and I am not at all surprised to hear that Nicholas may abdicate his throne, that Montenegro may effect a union with neighboring Serbia, and that King Peter of Serbia is to rule over the thus united states, with the proviso, however, that the right of succession to the double throne revert to the Montenegro family.

The Montenegrins have a population of only 550,000. It is of the size of Connecticut. Its mountaineers are intensely patriotic, and its men folk to a vast extent are devoted to the cause of the Balkan states. They are at their best as fighters, after the manner of the Scottish Highlanders. Their traditions are of the sword-in-hand variety.

To capture Scutari was beyond their resources, and the Montenegrins requested the loan of a Serbian division. The Turkish flag is flying over Scutari, and the powers have served notice on Montenegro that the next flag to be raised above the fortress will be that of "autonomous Albania," which Albania will be "operated" from Vienna.

King Nicholas is in the last ditch. Even those who condemn his judgment must admire his pluck. He stands alone, with five dollars opposed to him, and Russia acquiescent in their purpose. He awakens the sympathy of the world, but nothing else, for active support would cost blood and treasure. The situation is not novel. In 1853 the Berlin treaty worked a "readjustment" of boundaries in consequence of Russia's triumph over Turkey. They robbed both Russia and Turkey. They robbed both Russia and the Balkan states, but not much. Back of the public treaty of Berlin was a secret treaty, in virtue of which Austria was licensed to convert its trusteeship of Bosnia and Herzegovina into a nation whenever the conversion would not be destructive of the balance of power.

There was a good deal of bluster in 1908 when Austria engineered the "coup," but nothing happened, because Russia, still suffering from her severe attack of "Japanitis," dared not fight, and none of the other powers cared to pick a quarrel with Austria, backed by Germany. The "coup" was a success, and any one came to the assistance of the headstrong but brave old Nicholas? If the powers fall out among themselves, perhaps Montenegro may find a champion, but without the powers quarrel about peace terms, there may be a scramble for territorial fragments in which something may come to King Nicholas. Some power may brook it worth while to build up Montenegro to curb its rival, but alone and unaided Montenegro must prepare to accept accomplished facts.

Lady Dorothy Nevill achieved quite a record for a London resident by dying in a house in the Berkeley Square section, in which she lived sixty-six consecutive years. Like Curzon Street, its near neighbor, Charles Street affords amusing contrasts—a dingy inn standing next door to the house of the wealthiest member of the Greek colony of London. But in Lady Dorothy's early days its most distinguished resident was Sir Bulwer Lytton, one of whose drawing-rooms was an exact facsimile, as regards furniture and decorations, of a room in Pompeii.

Lady Dorothy is said to have remembered the last sedan chair used in London, but many younger persons no doubt have shared this memory. Lady Lucy Pusey, who died in 1858, clung to this form of conveyance until shortly before her death. There was a sedan chair kept for use by the mother of Dr. Pusey.

ONLY A FEW PEOPLE DO  
ANY ALL-ROUND THINKING

There are a saving few whose minds seem to be molds of new ideas—Thomas A. Edison, Luther Burbank, Wright Brothers. The other ninety-one per cent follow gossip and grumble. Every man is the most important thing in the world to himself, but he ought to think of how to be a stepladder to some one else and a tower of outlook to his city.

With all our workable lumber forces, we are striving to be both. It does not follow that we are egotists to say so. Mouldings 300 varieties:

Small size, a foot.....1c  
Large size, a foot.....1 1/2c to 4c  
White Pine Molding, from, a foot.....1c to 4c  
Hardwood Molding, from, a foot.....2c to 3c

The Frank Libbey  
Lumber & Mill Work Co.  
Sixth Street and New York Avenue.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

## A "Human Stock Farm."

From the New York Tribune.

California is to be used to endow a "human stock farm," to be conducted on strictly scientific principles, according to the Mendelian theory, no doubt. There is nothing new in the project except the method. The Greeks sought perfection of body and mind; they dreamed of the "kalokathros," to adopt a horrible word coined in Boston several years ago. The eighteenth century philosophers believed that the child of nature, pure and simple, if it could be raised in the real primitive environment, would turn out to be the perfect human being, while among later and now forgotten experiments there was one, planned if not carried out, of mating only six-footers. It was believed in Europe that the best of men and women could be made comely in the third generation by transplantation to the Caucasus, land of handsome men and beautiful women, and that the best of the generation would lose all its acquired good looks by retransplantation of its grandparents in the original habitat.

The new experiment will be one whose